

Latin American Studies at Swarthmore College

Revised 1/28/08

Latin American Studies: Interdisciplinary Minor

Students interested in Latin American Studies are invited to consult with the program's chair and committee members before developing a proposal. The proposal should establish how Latin American Studies relates to the overall program of undergraduate study in general, and to the departmental major in particular. The minor is open to students of all divisions.

Objectives of the LAS Program

Members of the LAS Committee believe that even in a small college like Swarthmore it is possible to build a strong interdisciplinary program in Latin American Studies by connecting perspectives on the region acquired through the lens of different disciplines. The Program aims to let students gain a sense of the importance of the Spanish and Portuguese-speaking countries that share this hemisphere with the United States (as well as the importance of the growing presence of Latinos in the U.S.), the wealth of their cultures, the depth and interconnectedness of their histories, and the great challenges for their future. The Committee hopes that students will engage with each other and with their professors as Latin Americanists from the beginning, and help establish a strong Latin American presence on campus through a variety of events and activities, some of their own initiative.

LAS Requirements

- **Language:** LAS requires the successful completion of Spanish 004B or its equivalent. The requirement is waived for native speakers of Spanish or Portuguese and for students who demonstrate sufficient competence in either one of these languages.
- **Study Abroad:** Students are required to spend a minimum of one semester abroad in a program approved by both LAS and the Office of Foreign Study. Only in exceptional cases, with the support of a faculty member and the

approval of the LAS committee, will a semester's internship or a community service project in Latin America will fulfill this requirement. Study Abroad must be pursued in Spanish or Portuguese. The requirement may be waived for students who have lived and studied in Latin America for a number of years, but they must apply for this waiver at the time of being considered for the minor.

- **Courses:** Students must take a minimum of five credits in Latin American Studies that may include seminars (counting as one credit for LAS) and courses. In order to give students a basic introduction to Latin America, all students are expected to take History 004. Introduction to Latin American History as one of those courses. Every fourth year, when History 004 is not offered, students may comply with this requisite by taking Spanish 10SA. En busca de Latinoamérica. The five courses must be taken in at least three different departments or disciplines. At least two of these courses must be taken at Swarthmore. Only **one** of the total five credits required by the LAS minor may overlap with a student's major or other minor.

Requirements of the Honors Minor

To complete an Honors Minor in Latin American Studies students must have completed all requirements for the interdisciplinary minor. They may select for outside examination a seminar taken to fulfill the interdisciplinary minor's requirements. The seminar chosen, however, may not be an offering within their major department.

Seminars and Courses in Latin American Studies Spring 2008 to Spring 2010

Spring 2008

- HIST 051. Race and Poverty in the U.S. from 1945 to Present (S. Lee)
 SOAN 124. The Americas: Cultural Politics and Social Movements (Diaz Barriga)
 SPAN 10SA. En busca de Latinoamérica [W] (Martínez)
 SPAN 013. Introducción a la literatura latinoamericana [W] (Camacho de Schmidt)
 SPAN 068. Seducciones Literarias/Traiciones Filmicas (Martínez)
 SPAN 109. Elena Poniatowska, la hija de México (Camacho de Schmidt)

Fall 2008

- HIST 004. Introduction to Latin American History (Armus)
 HIST 148. Issues and Debates in Modern Latin America (Armus)
 LITR 015SA. Childhood in Latin American Literature [FYS] (Camacho de Schmidt)

- POLS 055. Latin American Politics (Sharpe)
 POLS 109. Comparative Politics: Latin American (Sharpe)
 SOAN 148. Issues and Debates in Modern Latin America (Armus)
 SPAN 073. El cuento latinoamericano (Martínez)

Spring 2009

- HIST 001E. FYS: The Self Image of Latin America: Past, Present & Future (Armus)
 HIST 064. Migrants and Migrations: Europeans in Latin America (Armus)
 HIST 066. Disease, Culture and Society in the Modern World (Armus)
 LITR 046S. Latin American Sexualities (Martínez)
 POLS 057. Latin American Politics (Sharpe)
 POLS 109. Latin American: Practical Wisdom (Sharpe)
 SOAN 024C. Spanish American Society Through Its Novel [LITR 060SA] (Muñoz)
 SPAN 10SA. En busca de Latinoamérica [W] (Martínez)
 SPAN 013. Introducción a la literatura latinoamericana [W] (Camacho de Schmidt)
 SPAN 046. Latin American Sexualities [cross-listed as LITR 046S] (Martínez)
 SPAN 065. Los indígenas en la literatura latinoamérica (Camacho de Schmidt)
 SPAN 074. Encuentros culturales: la literatura multicultural de España y las Américas

Fall 2009

- HIST 004. Introduction to Latin American History (Armus)
 SOAN 022G. Social Movements in Latin America (Díaz-Barriga)
 SOAN 035C. Social Movements and Strategic Action (Smithey)
 SPAN XXX. Advanced course in Latin American literature
 SPAN XXX. Advanced course in Latin American literature

Spring 2010

- HIST 001E. The Self Image of Latin America: Past, Present & Future (Armus)
 HIST 067. Peripheral Modernities: Latin American Cities in the 20th Century (Armus)
 HIST 148. Issues and Debates in Modern Latin America (Armus)
 RELG 109. Afro-Atlantic Religions (Chireau)
 SPAN 10SA. En busca de Latinoamérica [W] (Martínez)
 SPAN 013. Introducción a la literatura latinoamericana
 SPAN XXX. Advanced course in Latin American literature
 SPAN XXX. Advanced course in Latin American literature
 SOAN 124. The Americas: Cultural Politics and Social Movements

Faculty on Leave

Professor Diego Armus	Spring 2008
Professor Kenneth Sharpe	Spring 2008
Professor Miguel Díaz-Barriga	2008-2009

Professor Luciano Martínez 2009-2010

Latin American Studies

Trotter 107

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